McGill reporter

GAZETTE
SUPPLEMENT

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A & S emergency meeting on Feb. 4

February 4th's emergency meeting of the Faculty of Arts and Science heard for the first time a suggestion from the Quebec government that McGill may have to maintain its college equivalent program for two generations of students.

The suggestion came in a telegram from Yves Martin, Quebec's Associate Deputy Minister of Education, to Vice-Principal Oliver, in answer to a letter asking clarification on matters relating to the CEGEP equivalent program McGill may offer next fall. The program has been accepted in principle by the Faculty for one generation (two years) only.

Faculty positions regarding the two generation suggestion varied from advocacy of a rigid stand on acceptance of one generation only (on the basis that to do otherwise would risk the quality of the education McGill could provide), to suggested flexibility in recognition that the government was in financial difficulties and thus it was almost the duty of the ministry to have made the suggestion.

One Faculty member wondered whether it meant the government was unsure the west island and south shore CEGEPs could be ready by fall 1970.

Dean Woods said that the Faculty had originally been strongly against any five-year program, but had accepted it on the one-generation basis to be in a good bargaining position as regarded the possible linkup with St. Joseph's Teachers College and the move of the Faculty of Education.

The only way McGill could physically accept a second group of college equivalent students in 1970 would be by postponing the Faculty of Education move and thus shortchanging that Faculty.

Prof. Valerie Pasztor asked if McGill would be operating in concert with the other English-language Quebec universities in perhaps refusing the five-year program.

Prof. Elton Pounder, a member of the Collegial Studies Committee, noted that thus far Sir George Williams and Bishops had tended to follow McGill's lead, but pointed out they had no problems comparable to the Faculty of Education move.

(Sir George has said it will accept entering groups of college equivalent students for three years, Bishops for as long as necessary.)

After reviewing the Martin telegram and telling Faculty of the verbal assurances he had on some of the points, Dr. Oliver noted that the date for Dawson College's occupancy of the Frosst Building was a late July 15, and that for a fall 1970 opening the Education building would have to be begun this April, "and before one can begin with digging one should know the size of the building to be built."

He suggested that Faculty should decide at the meeting whether the University's position had been met to sufficient degree by the government to warrant going ahead via Senate with the five-year program.

Faculty passed, with 10 abstentions (39 for, 17 against) a motion by Prof. John Trentman to: "recommend strongly to Senate that the stated position of the Faculty regarding the autonomy of teaching and a one-year transition period not be compromised in any future arrangements made with the provincial government."

An amendment put by Prof. Theodore Morris, saying that Faculty appreciated the attempt of the Government to clarify the issues set out in Prof. Oliver's letter, but was dismayed that only one item was answered in full, and was in particular dismayed by the suggestion regarding acceptance of a second generation of collegial students on campus in September 1970, when the Education Faculty would have moved to Montreal, did not pass.

ITEMS FOR THE GAZETTE

The GAZETTE is published weekly throughout the academic year. Deadline for submitting items for publication is Monday of the week prior to the week of publication. Materials for the GAZETTE should be forwarded to the Editor, Harry E. Thomas, Rm. 630, Administration Building.

Senate minutes

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF SENATE HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1969 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF THE LEACOCK BUILDING.

96. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Dean Hall MOVED that the agenda be adopted.

As an amendment to the motion Professor Durnford MOVED:

"That the adoption of the agenda shall not, with respect to any items on it which relate to matters previously decided by Senate, be construed as waiving the requirement for a motion to reconsider, passed after the notice of two-thirds of the members of Senate present at the meeting which considers it, before the agenda items in question can be discussed and voted upon anew."

Professor Durnford explained that this was the same motion that was presented by Mr. Brown at the last meeting and which had had force only for that particular meeting. He asked that the Steering Committee be requested to propose that this same motion should have effect at all future meetings.

Mr. Hyman spoke on the question of reconsideration, saying that it pertained only to the reconsideration of a vote within a given session and not to a vote taken at an earlier session.

The amendment was then voted upon and carried.

Mr. Hyman referred to Recommendation 2 in the report of the Nominating Committee presented at the last meeting pertaining to the Joint Committee of Governors and Senate to Maintain a Continuing Review of University Government. As an amendment to the motion, Mr. Hyman MOVED that this question be removed from the table and placed at the top of the agenda. The amendment was carried.

As an amendment to the motion, Professor Vogel MOVED that item B VI b), the motion on the structure of the Graduate Faculty, be deleted from the agenda, and this amendment was carried.

Mr. Brown rose on a point of privilege, and read an extract from the *McGill News*. As an amendment to the motion, Mr. Brown then MOVED that the following resolution be adopted:

"That Senate hereby affirms its respect for, and its complete confidence in, Principal Robertson as chairman of its meetings; and

That Senate dissociates itself from both the substance of, and the offensive language used in, the contrary opinion attributed on page 5 of the November, 1968 issue of the *McGill News* to Mr. Peter Foster in the following terms: 'And, of course, the other problem is the authoritarian, shall we say even fascist, control of Senate proceedings by the Principal, who is chairman.'"

In speaking to this motion, Mr. Brown said that the chairman of Senate has been fair to the point of leaning over backwards. He said he believed it was the responsibility of members of Senate to move that the question be put at any time they felt that two-thirds of the members were ready to vote on a given question. The motion to put the question was the only method of finding out if two-thirds of the members were ready to vote. He also urged that members should refrain themselves from speaking on a given question to the greatest extent possible. He said he felt that Senate had been placing an undue burden on the chairman by its failure to observe these two measures in the past.

Mr. Foster said that his comments quoted in the *McGill News* were off-the-cuff comments for an interview. He added that he had personal confidence in the chairman and he believed that he was fair in applying the rules. It was the powers possessed by the Chair he had objected to, i.e. the power to close debates and to make rulings not subject to appeal. With regard to Mr. Brown's proposal that members should use the device of putting the question, Mr. Foster added that the function of Senate was to discuss issues so that the campus would know what they were. The application of this device would stop debate on issues which needed a full airing.

The amendment to the motion was then voted upon and carried unanimously.

As an amendment to the motion, Professor Sandiford MOVED that the resolution be adopted:

"That Senate adopt for today's meeting the following procedure:

The Chairman allocate latest starting times for each agenda item in such a manner that all items receive consideration by noon. Debate on all items requiring further discussion when the allotted time expires will be continued during the afternoon."

Mr. Hyman pointed out that on October 31 student members had placed important motions on the agen-